Friday April 29, 1994:

Practice today and Rubens took an almighty hit. I did not see it in person, but have watched the video. His Jordan appeared to hit a curb in the fast *Variante Bassa* corner. After that my jaw dropped. Even on video it was scary. The car launched into the sky like a plane and Rubens flew into a tire wall. The Jordan rolled several times, ending on its top. I thought he died. Right then and there. I thought I lost a friend. It looked even worse once they pulled his unconscious body out of the car. But thankfully, Rubens was okay. Perhaps it was the prayers everyone said, I don’t know, but Rubens will race another day. I suggested to my chief mechanic after returning the car to the paddock that we try and unite the other teams to protest the weekend unless the curbing is changed or the barriers outside the track are moved. Everyone knows the cars are way too fast in too many parts of the circuit, and one day someone is going to really get hurt here. Rubens just broke his nose and bruised his arm; imagine how much worse it could be. I’m praying tonight that something gets done, something to save another driver.

Saturday April 30, 1994:

I don’t know, but this weekend gives me bad feelings. First Rubens is hurt, and now Roland. I know racing is dangerous, but this is just terrible. No way should one race weekend have this many incidents. Rubens can go home tonight and talk to his family about all of this, Roland’s family will have no one to talk to. Mr. Roland Ratzenberger, just 33 years old, is now dead because of this place. Roland’s front wing failed, making his car impossible to drive. He crashed into the wall in *Villeneuve* corner at top speed. My hatred is getting worse and worse for San Marino. I wish we would pack up our things right now, and get of here. This track isn’t safe, these cars aren’t safe, we cannot stay. The race has more cars, more danger, and more people. What would happen if these walls gave way, and a car went into the crowds? Everything needs to be improved. Helmets need to be fixed. They are not safe enough; they simply aren’t built sturdy enough to withstand an impact. Until they are we need to not race. That hurts me to say as a fan, as a racer, a true lover of the sport. This is just tragic. Why we haven’t stopped after Rubens crash, I’m not sure. I pray nothing else happens, nothing else fails, these cars and this track are too unsafe to race right now. I pray Bernie says “let’s go home”. May God please look down on us and give use a safe race tomorrow.

Sunday May, 1 1994:

Why!!!! Why this weekend? I will never forget what has happened. Now Senna. Ayrton Senna, the best racing driver in the world, dead. Because of something stupid, because we didn’t have to race, because Bernie was too much a wimp to say “we aren’t racing”. Because the manufactures and race engineers are too tough to say we should stop racing. This happened because of them. They let safety issues go, and for what? So they could make a few more dollars. Well Senna is dead, Roland is dead. Rubens is injured. These bosses I drive for, they are savages for cash. They just needed to move a wall back here, put in a chicane here, and do something, anything to prevent this. Why must they let this exist like this? Mandate better helmets, mandate more track safety equipment, we need better tire walls, just farther back then we have now. I am just a driver, and I know this. What else has to happen before we change the safety of our cars, or tracks, and our equipment?